

In the Claims

Please rewrite claims 1-5 and add new claims 9-20 as follows. For convenience, all pending claims are reproduced below. Applicant has attached a marked-up version of the claims with deletions shown in brackets and additions shown with underlines.

1. (Amended) A hand-held electronic security apparatus adapted to allow a user to obtain identifying information of an individual at a first location, the apparatus comprising:

a casing;

a computer disposed within the casing, the computer having a computer program;

a first input device coupled to the computer and adapted to receive identifying information of the individual, the computer being adapted to receive and process identifying information from the first input device;

a storage medium communicating with the computer, the storage medium including a database of identifying information of at least one individual, wherein the computer compares identifying information of the individual received from the first input device with the identifying information stored in the storage medium;

a second input device coupled to the computer and adapted to enter remarks into the computer program regarding at least one of the individual and the identifying information;

a transmitter coupled to the computer and adapted to electronically transmit at least one of the identifying information and remarks to a second location remote from the first location;

a receiver coupled to the computer and adapted to receive instructions from the second location, the instructions comprising an action the user of the apparatus should take regarding the individual; and

an output device coupled to the computer and adapted to inform the user of the apparatus of the instructions.

2. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the identifying information includes an image of the individual.

3. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the first input device comprises a camera coupled to the computer and adapted to obtain an image of the individual.
4. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the output device comprises a display coupled to the computer and adapted to display the image.
5. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the apparatus is adapted to communicate with a remote location to receive identifying information.
6. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the computer includes image recognition software for use in comparing the image of the individual to a database of stored images.
7. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the image is at least one of a facial image, a hand image, a fingerprint image and an eye image.
8. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the camera is constructed and arranged to reduce a likelihood of being detected.
9. (New) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the storage medium is housed separately from the casing.
10. (New) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the apparatus is adapted to capture, together with the camera, both a streaming video digital image of the individual and a still digital image of the individual.
11. (New) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the first input device comprises a camera control unit coupled to the computer and housed within the casing and a camera coupled to the camera control unit, the camera being housed separately from the camera control unit.
12. (New) A method of obtaining identifying information of an individual at a first location, the method comprising acts of:

loading a desired program into an apparatus, the apparatus having a computer and a camera control unit coupled to the computer and adapted to receive and process images from an imager that is housed separately from the camera control unit, the apparatus being capable of capturing, together with the imager, both a streaming video digital image of the individual and a still digital image of the individual;

instructing the same apparatus to capture, together with the imager, at least one of a) the streaming video digital image of the individual at a first location and b) the still digital image of the individual at a first location;

operating the same apparatus to enter in the program remarks about the individual, the remarks including at least one of notes regarding the individual, a date the image was taken, an identification of the individual, and an identification of a person using the apparatus;

instructing the same apparatus to electronically transmit the at least one of streaming video digital image, still digital image and remarks to a second location remote from the first location;

reviewing the at least one of streaming video digital image, still digital image and the remarks at the second location;

preparing instructions based on at least one of the streaming video digital image, still digital image and remarks;

transmitting instructions back to the first location; and

performing an action regarding the individual in response to the instructions.

13. (New) The method according to claim 12, further comprising an act of storing, in the apparatus, at least one of a plurality of images of individuals and remarks concerning at least one individual and instructional information regarding the individual.

14. (New) The method according to claim 12, further comprising an act of operating the same apparatus to enter in the program audio data regarding the individual.

15. (New) The method according to claim 14, further comprising an act of instructing the same apparatus to electronically transmit the audio data to the second location.